

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14  
By Sargent

A RESOLUTION to honor and applaud Head Coach Ron Crawford and the Brentwood High School Bruins on winning the 2002 TSSAA Class 5A State Football Championship.

WHEREAS, The Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, The Brentwood High School Bruins achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2002 season, establishing a record of 14-1 and winning the Blue Cross Bowl, the state's highest level of high school football competition; and

WHEREAS, The Bruins were led by first-year coach Ron Crawford to their first ever championship in football; and

WHEREAS, After their unfortunate and hard-fought opening loss to Brentwood Academy, the Bruins went undefeated for the rest of the regular season and rolled over five straight opponents in the playoffs, culminating in their championship victory over Blue Cross Bowl-veteran Murfreesboro Riverdale; and

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WHEREAS, The Bruins won this grueling gridiron battle 10-7, aided by their indomitable offense, which passed for 78 yards, rushed for 132 yards and was 2-2 in the Red Zone; this outstanding offensive unit, led by quarterback Austin Everson, averaged 25.6 points per game for the season; and

WHEREAS, The constant and tremendous pressure exerted by the Bruins' defense and special teams unquestionably helped the team's effort, with two key interceptions by Luke Steckel and Kellen Moore, a fumble recovery by Steven Jones that led to a Bruins' touchdown, and three huge sacks by Ian Van Horne, Steven Jones, and David Reed that totaled 20 negative yards in the championship game; the unshakable defense held opponents to just 9.46 points per game all season; and

WHEREAS, A 28-yard field goal by Michael Clark in the waning minutes of the fourth quarter sailed home and cemented victory for the newly crowned champion Bruins; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Ron Crawford and Assistant Coaches Jason Guthrie, Hunter Hughes, Dan Norris, Jim Pauley, Mike Jones, Les Steckel, Tom Crawford, Paul Brogdon, Ron Riddle, Ryan Bult, and Jim Shapiro laid the groundwork for the championship by sharing their substantial knowledge of football with the young men on the team; Principal Kevin Keidel and Athletic Director Ronnie Seigenthaler contributed significantly to the team's success by most willingly providing their support to the football program; and

WHEREAS, The football players at Brentwood High School epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the gridiron while showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; they inspired the student body and united the entire Brentwood community in completing their triumphal run through the 2002 season; and

WHEREAS, The dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship football season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge and applaud the Brentwood Bruins for winning the 2002 TSSAA Class 5A state football championship and for serving as examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we do hereby honor and congratulate Head Coach Ron Crawford and the Brentwood High School Bruins on their remarkable 2002 season and Blue Cross Bowl victory. In becoming TSSAA Class 5A state football champs, the Bruins have proven themselves to be exemplary and capable young men who are worthy of this General Assembly's accolades.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.